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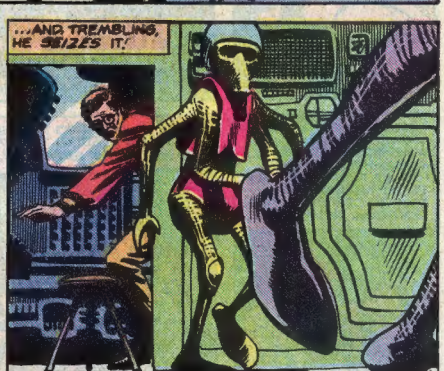

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EARTH STATION 18-283... TYRONE. THIS IS AMBASSADOR RAMSNED. I BROKE INTO THIS INTERSPAN MAILING STATION. THIS IS THE ONLY MEANS I HAVE OF COMMUNICATING WITH YOU.

THIS TRANSMISSION IS ILLEGAL... BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER!

"THERE IS NO LAW ON BELDAR. NOT AS WE KNOW IT. MARKOVITZ WAS RIGHT. HE WARNED US ABOUT THE BELDARINS. NOW THEY COULD BE SAVAGES OR WORSE. WE THOUGHT HE WAS PARANOID. HE WASN'T.

"THE DAY OF OUR ARRIVAL WE WERE TREATED LIKE ROYALTY. MY WIFE AND CHILDREN... MY AIDE, WAINRIGHT... AND MYSELF. WE WERE ALL MADE AT HOME... GIVEN WHATEVER WE WANTED.

"WAINRIGHT FELT UNEASY AROUND THEM, BUT IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR MY FORMAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL OF THE UNITED COLONIAL WORLDS.

"WE WERE TAKEN TO THE EMBASSY AND INTRODUCED TO THE STAFF, WHO HELPED US SETTLE IN.

"A DAY OR SO LATER, WE FOUND THE CHILDREN PLAYING WITH SOME OF THE SMALL BELDARINS. THEY WERE SO BOISTEROUS, WE HAD TO LOOK IN ON THEM-- AND IT'S A GOOD THING WE DID."

"WE FOUND THE *TOY* THEY WERE PLAYING WITH TO BE LOADED WITH A *POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE!* WE THOUGHT THE BELDARINS MERELY *UNAWARE* OF THE *HARM* THE DEVICE COULD CAUSE *TERRAN CHILDREN* AFTER ALL, IT WAS ONLY A *LOUD NOISE* TO THE TOUGH-HIDED *BELDARIN* CHILDREN.

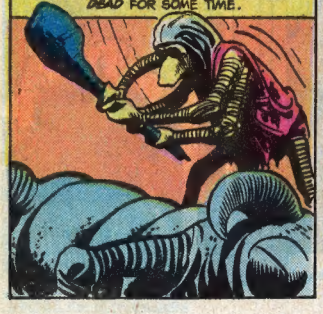
"IN THE BEGINNING SUSAN SPENT MUCH *TIME* ALONE IN REVERIE. SHE LOVED AND MISSED HER *NATIVE* WORLD. THE SERVANTS SPENT TIME WITH HER SO SHE WOULDN'T BECOME OVERLY *LONELY*.

"WAINRIGHT REPORTED TO ME THAT HE HAD SEEN ONE OF MY WIFE'S MAIDS TAKING *NOTES*. IT SEEMED HIGHLY *SUSPICIOUS* TO HIM.

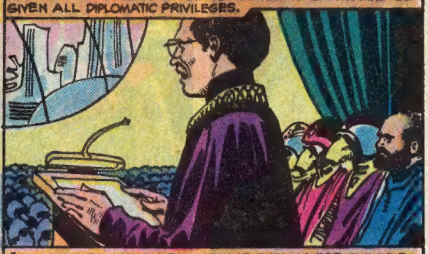
"NATURALLY, I SAID BELDAR BEING A NEW DIPLOMATIC CONTACT, THEY WOULD BE AS CURIOUS ABOUT *US* AS WERE ABOUT *THEM*. WAINRIGHT WARNED ME TO BE *OBSERVANT* UNTIL IT CAME TIME TO MAKE MY *REPORT* TO THE COLONIAL WORLDS.

"WHILE ON *TOUR* ONE AFTERNOON, I SAW A PLOWHAND IN ONE OF THEIR AGRIFIELDS *BEATING* A BEAST OF BURDEN. MY CHAUFFEUR PRETENDED TO BE IN A HURRY, THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING I WAS NOT *MEANT* TO SEE.

"I HAD NOT OBSERVED THIS IN THEIR NATURE BEFORE. HE WAS GOING ABOUT HIS TASK WITH A *DISQUIETING* RELISH AND THE BEAST HAD APPARENTLY *BEEN DEAD* FOR SOME TIME.



"SOON, IT WAS TIME FOR MY *ADDRESS* TO THE *UCW*. WAINRIGHT AGAIN WARNED ME TO *REPORT* EVERYTHING. I *DID NOT*, HOWEVER, AND MY REPORT WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR THE BELDAR ENVOY TO TRAVEL TO EARTH AND BE GIVEN ALL DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES.



"THEY WERE ALREADY DOCKED AND FUELING FOR THE TRIP IN ANTICIPATION OF COUNCIL APPROVAL, WHICH WOULD COME SHORTLY AFTER MY REPORT... AS DID MY *DISCOVERY*."

"MY GUIDES BECAME STRANGELY CLOSE-MOUTHED AFTER THE REPORT WAS TRANSMITTED, AND WAINRIGHT AND I WERE *SEPARATED* EN ROUTE BACK TO THE EMBASSY.

"I WAS ESCORTED TO THE DOOR AND LEFT *ALONE*.

"ONCE INSIDE, I FOUND THAT THE SERVANTS WERE NO LONGER THERE. NEITHER WERE *SUSAN*... OR THE *CHILDREN*.

"I VENTURED OUT TO THE *KITCHEN*. THERE WAS A *KNOCK* AT THE FRONT DOOR.

"THEN AN *EXPLOSION!* SOMEONE HAD *BLOWN IT OPEN* WITH A *LASER-BLAST*.

KA-BLAMM

"QUICKLY, I *HID!*

"*SOLDIERS* WERE SEARCHING THE BUILDING, APPARENTLY FOR *ME*. THEY WERE ALL *ARMED TO THE TEETH!*

"THE BACK WALL OF THE PANTRY, I NOTICED, OPENED INTO A *DELIVERY CHUTE*. I *USED* IT... AND LANDED IN A REFRIGERATED *STORAGE COMPARTMENT*."

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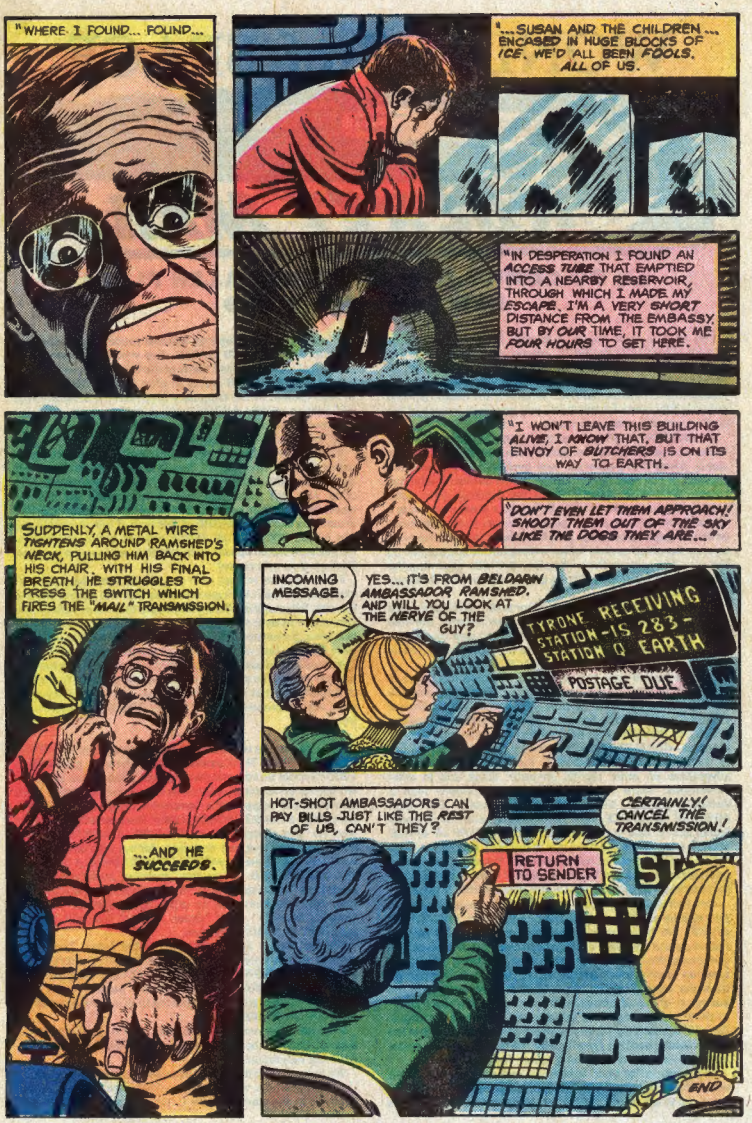

"WHERE I FOUND... FOUND...
"...SUSAN AND THE CHILDREN... ENCASED IN HUGE BLOCKS OF ICE. WE'D ALL BEEN FOOLS. ALL OF US.
"IN DESPERATION I FOUND AN ACCESS TUBE THAT EMPTIED INTO A NEARBY RESERVOIR, THROUGH WHICH I MADE MY ESCAPE. I'M A VERY SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE EMBASSY, BUT BY OUR TIME, IT TOOK ME FOUR HOURS TO GET HERE.
"I WON'T LEAVE THIS BUILDING ALIVE, I KNOW THAT, BUT THAT ENVOY OF BUTCHERS IS ON ITS WAY TO EARTH.
"DON'T EVEN LET THEM APPROACH! SHOOT THEM OUT OF THE SKY LIKE THE DOGS THEY ARE..."
SUDDENLY, A METAL WIRE TIGHTENS AROUND RAMSHED'S NECK, PULLING HIM BACK INTO HIS CHAIR. WITH HIS FINAL BREATH, HE STRUGGLES TO PRESS THE SWITCH WHICH FIRES THE "MAIL" TRANSMISSION.
INCOMING MESSAGE.
YES... IT'S FROM BELDARN AMBASSADOR RAMSHED. AND WILL YOU LOOK AT THE NERVE OF THE GUY?
TYRONE RECEIVING STATION-IS 283-STATION Q EARTH
POSTAGE DUE
...AND HE SUCCEEDS.
HOT-SHOT AMBASSADORS CAN PAY BILLS JUST LIKE THE REST OF US, CAN'T THEY?
CERTAINLY! CANCEL THE TRANSMISSION!
RETURN TO SENDER
END

WONDERS of SPACE

c/o DC COMICS, INC., 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

You hold in your hands, a legend. Maybe you've never HEARD of *MYSTERY IN SPACE*...maybe you only picked up this particular issue because of its striking Joe Kubert cover...or perhaps you noticed the name of one of your favorite artists emblazoned on the top banner... Whatever the reason you laid out your fifty cents for this book, you now own a piece of the stuff of which legends are made.

For *MYSTERY IN SPACE* was the beginning...it was the first! It was the premiere outer. space science fiction anthology comic, being first published way back in 1951. It was the creation of our now-Senior Editor, Julius Schwartz, who had created *STRANGE ADVENTURES* the previous year. Both comics were answers to Julie Schwartz's dream: to create a comic book version of the science fiction pulp magazines which he grew up reading. Julie had been a fan of those early science fiction adventure books; writing fan letters, publishing the very first science fiction fanzine, and later becoming the literary agent for science fiction giants such as Ray Bradbury and H.P. Lovecraft.

But in the 1950's Julie was an editor at *DC*...and there was a science fiction boom going on in the movie industry. The time was right for comics to enter the field. So it was up to Julie Schwartz to give the comics world the fruits of his experience: Thus was created *MYSTERY IN SPACE*.

But the legend does not end there. Through the pages of *MYSTERY IN SPACE* soon came some of the most memorable science fiction heroes of all time (and space): The whimsical SPACE CABBY and the friendly rivals who called themselves THE STAR ROVERS. And the greatest interplanetary hero of them all—ADAM STRANGE! From May of 1951 to September of 1966 *MYSTERY IN SPACE* thrilled readers with its adventures on other worlds, in other times and in alien dimensions. More than a hundred issues...more than a decade-and-a-half filled with the fantastic! But then *MYSTERY IN SPACE* was discontinued and its memory faded...but it was not forgotten. No, *MYSTERY IN SPACE* became a legend. It had been one of the very, very few science fiction comic books that had succeeded! It was popular when science fiction was not! What was there? What was the magic that made *MYSTERY IN SPACE* the triumph that it was?

One fact is certain: It was popular with readers; they wrote and told us so. Now we are trying again with *MYSTERY IN SPACE*. We have brought back the greatest of all science fiction comics and want the legend to continue. But we cannot do it alone. We have the work of an award-winning Editor (who grew up reading those comics edited by Julie Schwartz); we have the writing talents of some of the best writers in the business—those who have been creating wonders for twenty-to-thirty years—as well as some vastly talented newcomers. But still, we can't do it with just these people plus a crop of the most visually exciting drawings by the greatest comic artists available—we need something more! We need YOU!

This page is for your comments and suggestions. What would YOU like to see in the pages of *MYSTERY IN SPACE*? We want you to tell us in the best way you know how. The letters we feel express the feelings of most readers will appear in print in WONDERS OF SPACE. And who knows what will become of you after that? Many of the DC editors, writers and artists first saw THEIR words in print in the WONDERS OF SPACE column in the legendary *MYSTERY IN SPACE*. What will happen to YOU if YOUR name and address appear here? The possibilities—like the possibilities in the stories in *MYSTERY IN SPACE*—are endless!

In this issue we have presented stories that would have to be categorized as "one-shots". That is to say that the characters appearing in the stories will probably never appear again. (The ones who got killed are especially crossed off the re-appearance list, of course). But what about future stories? Would you like to see MORE of this type of tale, or would you like to see *MYSTERY IN SPACE* present series characters; heroes who would appear each month to take you on journeys through time and space?

To be perfectly honest with you, we do not have any iron-clad policies about the type of stories that will appear here in the next few months. We are waiting to hear from YOU so you can inform us as to what you are anxious to read about. Do you like tales of monsters? Is time travel your particular interest? How do you feel about stories of world destruction? Alien invasions? Serious science fiction concepts? Humorous stories? You tell us and we'll do our best to comply! The future of this comic is not in our hands alone—you have a say-so in what we will present in *MYSTERY IN SPACE*! We await word from you!

* * * * *

Perhaps you are wondering about our title. Why "*MYSTERY IN SPACE*?" Why THAT particular title? The story goes back to 1950 wherein an editorial meeting was taking place in the old DC offices on Madison Avenue in New York City. Editor Julie Schwartz had suggested a companion comic to his already-successful *STRANGE ADVENTURES*. The publishers liked the idea for two reasons: One, *STRANGE ADVENTURES* was doing well,and two, the anthology format was also working well with such titles as *HOUSE OF MYSTERY* and *TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED*. In fact, the "mystery" books were doing quite well. That was IT! Why not combine the two ideas in a title: "mystery stories in an outer space setting." The key words: "Mystery" and "Outer Space." Lo and behold: *MYSTERY IN SPACE* was born.

We feel that a similar situation exists today. There IS a science fiction boom going on...and the *DC* mystery books (*HOUSE OF MYSTERY, THE UNEXPECTED, GHOSTS* and *SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE*) are popular with their individual audiences. We feel that the time is right to represent *MYSTERY IN SPACE*.

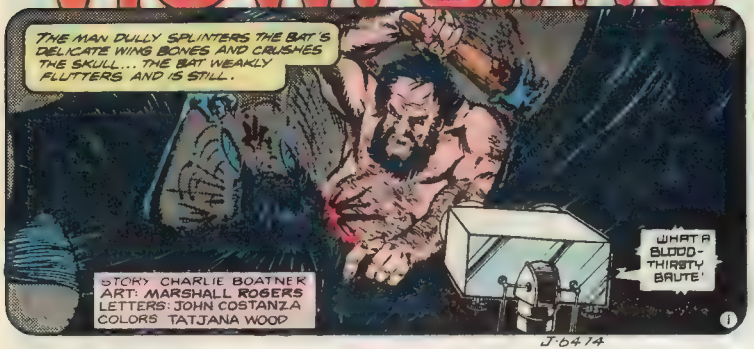
It is an awesome responsibility...being protectors of a legend...and we hope that the legend will develop a more far-reaching reputation.

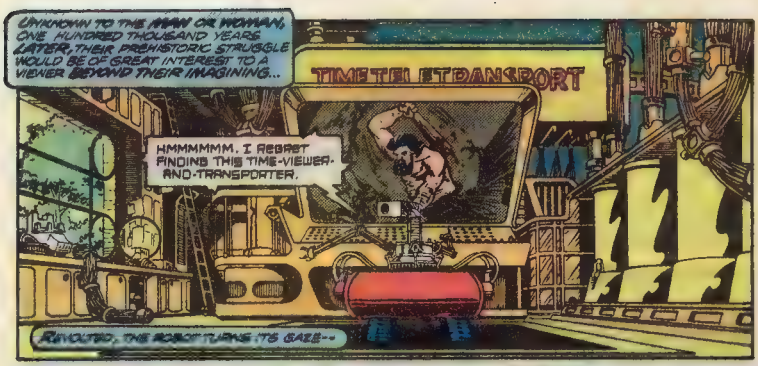
We believe, with the help of everyone involved—from editor, to writer, to artists, to you readers—that we shall succeed. We think it's in the stars...—Mike C. Carmichael, April, 1980

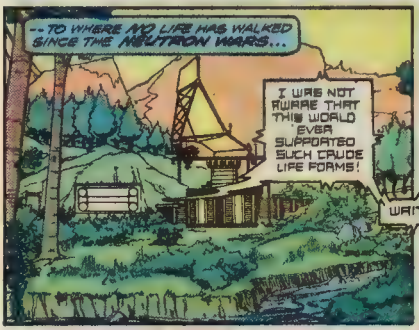
THE PREHISTORIC WORLD IS A DARK AND UNFORGIVING PLACE

THE CREATURES CREATED IN ITS IMAGE ARE FORCED INTO ITS WAYS. THEY STRIKE QUICKLY --- SAVAGELY--
CAN ANY CREATURE SURVIVE HERE AND CALL ITSELF HUMAN?

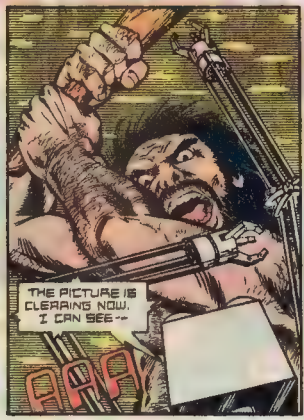
ViewPOINTS

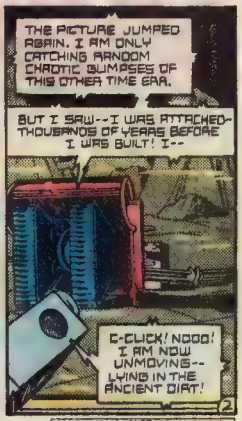

THE MAN DULLY SPLINTERS THE BAT'S DELICATE WING BONES AND CRUSHES THE SKULL... THE BAT WEAKLY FLUTTERS AND IS STILL.
WHAT A BLOOD-THIRSTY BRUTE!
STORY CHARLIE BOATNER
ART: MARSHALL ROGERS
LETTERS: JOHN COSTANZA
COLORS TATJANA WOOD
1


UNKNOWN TO THE MAN OR WOMAN, ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND YEARS LATER, THEIR PREHISTORIC STRUGGLE WOULD BE OF GREAT INTEREST TO A VIEWER BEYOND THEIR IMAGINING...
TIME TELETRANSPORT
HMMMMMM. I REGRET FINDING THIS TIME-VIEWER-AND-TRANSPORTER.
REVOLTED, THE ROBOT TURNS ITS GAZE--


--TO WHERE NO LIFE HAS WALKED SINCE THE NEUTRON WARS...
I WAS NOT AWARE THAT THIS WORLD EVER SUPPORTED SUCH CRUDE LIFE FORMS!
WAIT--

THAT IS ME--ROLLING TOWARD THAT FILTHY SAVAGE! WHAT WOULD EVER MOTIVATE ME TO LEAVE THIS HAZARD-FREE PRESENT TIME? WHY SHOULD I ENDANGER MY PERFECTLY ENGINEERED, SOLITARY EXISTENCE?




THE PICTURE JUMPED AGAIN. I AM ONLY CATCHING RANDOM CHAOTIC GLIMPSES OF THIS OTHER TIME ERA.
BUT I SAW--I WAS ATTACKED-THOUSANDS OF YEARS BEFORE I WAS BUILT! I--
C-CLICK! NOOO! I AM NOW UNMOVING--LYING IN THE ANCIENT DIRT!
2

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

ADVERTISEMENT

BATGIRL
IN
A MATTER OF GOOD TASTE
BATGIRL, THE DARLING OF THE DARKNESS, CLASHES WITH JET-SET JESSIE, JEWEL THIEF EXTRAORDINAIRE.
TUT, TUT! YOU'LL HAVE TO BE FASTER THAN THAT, MY DEAR.
I'LL GET YOU YET, JESSIE, AND PUT AN END TO YOUR THIEVING WAYS.
AND I CAN GET MY HANDS ON YOUR FOOT BEFORE I GET IT ON THE CHIN.
I'VE GOT TO KEEP JESSIE BUSY WITH SOMETHING BESIDES ME.
HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES! A JEWEL OF A SNACK.
I LOVE THE GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE. AND THE CREAMED FILLING. DELICIOUS.
I HAD NO JEWELS OR SILVER TO DISTRACT YOU WITH.
BUT GOLDEN HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES DID IT! I ALWAYS WAS A PUSHOVER FOR ANYTHING WITH GOOD TASTE.
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NO! I WILL NOT ALLOW MYSELF TO BE DESTROYED BY AN UNTHINKING EXTINCT ANIMAL!

I CAN STILL DESTROY THE MACHINE AND THUS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE TRANSMITTED BACK INTO THAT TIME AND SHATTERED!

SSSRAK!

AS THE ROBOT POUNDS THE MACHINE, SOMETHING SHORT-CIRCUITS--AND SPARKS! THE TRANSPORTER GRID FLARES...

MISCALCULATION! I HAVE ACTIVATED IT!

THE ROBOT VANISHES FROM THE GREAT HALL OF COMPUTERS..

...AND NOTHING MOVES ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH...

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND YEARS AGO..

NOTHING IN THE ANIMAL PIT?

NO. BUT WE *MUST* FIND FOOD, MY WIFE. YOUR SICKNESS IS *KILLING* YOU.

THE SUN HAD BAKED THE LIFE OUT OF THIS LAND. IF HUMANITY WERE TO THRIVE, IT WOULD NOT BE HERE...

SUDDENLY...

FOOOSH

THE ROBOT ABRUPTLY RECOGNIZES THE MAN... AND REALIZES THAT IT IS TRAPPED IN THE SAME TIME PERIOD IT HAD *WATCHED* UPON THE TIME VIEWER...

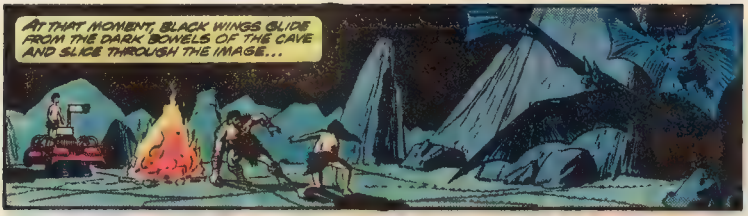
RUN, MY HUSBAND!

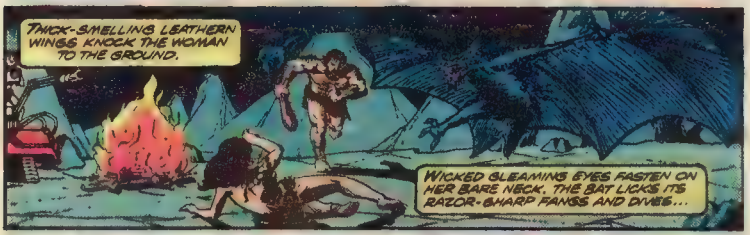
A SHINING STONE GOD! WORSHIP HIM--!

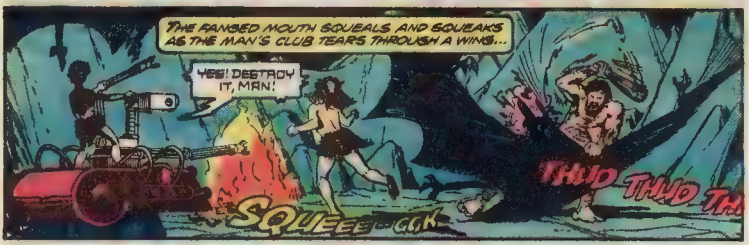
THE BEAST!! IT WILL DESTROY ME!

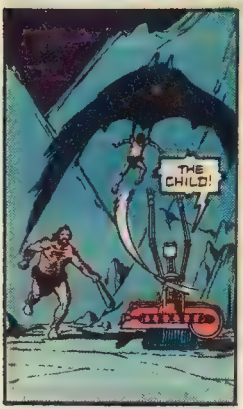
BUT, HMMMM.. I AM NOT BROKEN AS YET. I CAN CRUSH ITS SKULL FIRST. I MAY CHANGE THE EVENTS DISPLAYED ON THE TIME VIEWER...

BUT, AS THE METALLIC TREADS RUMBLE FORWARD...
CRACK
TRAPPED IN THE PIT, THE ROBOT PREPARES FOR THE WORST, BUT...
I DO NOT UNDERSTAND...
MERCY, SHINING ONE...
NO.. DON'T SET IT FREE!
WE MUST! HE MAY DEFEND US FROM THIS LAND... OR EVEN CURE YOU!
WE MUST MOVE ON-- QUICKLY! PLEASE CARRY MY SICK WIFE.
HMMMM, I CANNOT DECIPHER THE BEASTS' MEANINGLESS ANIMAL GROWLS, WHY DO THEY THRUST THEMSELVES UPON ME AS THOUGH THEY TRUST ME NOT TO HARM THEM?
THE HUMANS WANDER THE LAND SEARCHING... ALL THE EARTH SEEMS CRACKED AND LIFELESS.
THE MAN FINDS LITTLE MEAT... ONLY A TINY LIZARD.
HE BREAKS ITS NECK.
PERHAPS THERE IS NO MORE FRESH, GREEN LAND..
NIGHT BRINGS A CHILL HOWLING WIND... THE FAMILY COOKS THE BIT OF MEAT NEAR THE DAMP MOUTH OF A CAVE AND HUDDLES TOGETHER BEFORE THE LEAPING FIRE...
TAKE. EAT.
WHAT OF YOU?
I CAN FIND MORE TOMORROW.
IT SACRIFICES THE BURNED FLESH TO THE OTHERS.
INCOMPREHENSIBLE
I COULD NEVER TEND ANOTHER WHILE I NEEDED MAINTENANCE.
BUT THE ROBOT FEELS A SOFT, PLEASANT WARMTH WITHIN ITSELF. IT DISCOUNTS THE SENSATION-- BLAMING IT ON CROSSED WIRES.
THESE LIFE FORMS ARE ACUTELY VULNERABLE-- TO COLD, TO DISEASE, TO HUNGER...
I KNOW THESE CREATURES-- I HAVE SEEN THEM SOMEWHERE BEFORE THE TIME VIEWER
THE FLAMES DANCE DREAMILY...
...AND SMOKE DRIFTS UP INTO THE SHAPE OF A MEMORY...
MAN! THE INVENTOR! O, MY CREATOR--
WHEN YOU CREATED THE WEAPONS AND WAR THAT NEARLY DESTROYED ME, I TRIED TO ERASE HUMANITY FROM MY MEMORY TAPES




THICK-SMELLING LEATHERN WINGS KNOCK THE WOMAN TO THE GROUND.
WICKED GLEAMING EYES FASTEN ON HER BARE NECK. THE BAT LICKS ITS RAZOR-SHARP FANGS AND DIVES...

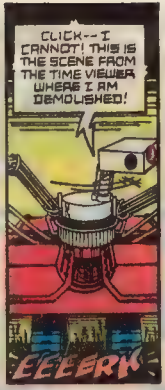




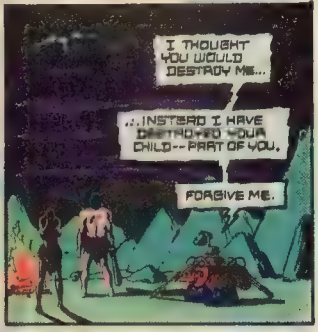
THE MAN MAKES A FRANTIC LUNGE AND BARELY SNAGS THE BAT WITH HIS FINGERTIPS...

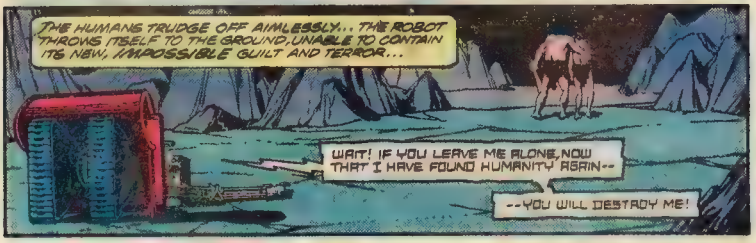
THE ROBOT FORCES ITSELF TO COME FORWARD...

THE MAN FEELS THE ROUGH WING SLIDING FROM HIS FINGERS, HE DESPERATELY STRIKES AGAIN.



WHILE THE ROBOT HESITATES, THE MONSTER BREAKS FREE AND FLAPS HEAVILY INTO THE MIST-LADEN SKY, SATISFIED WITH ITS CAPTURED PREY..

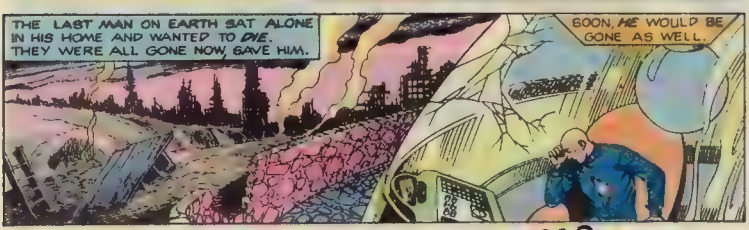



THE HUMANS TRUDGE OFF AIMLESSLY... THE ROBOT THROWS ITSELF TO THE GROUND, UNABLE TO CONTAIN ITS NEW, IMPOSSIBLE GUILT AND TERROR...
WAIT! IF YOU LEAVE ME ALONE, NOW THAT I HAVE FOUND HUMANITY AGAIN--
--YOU WILL DESTROY ME!

THE PREHISTORIC WORLD IS A DARK AND UNFORGIVING PLACE. THE CREATURES CREATED IN ITS IMAGE ARE FORCED INTO ITS WAYS. THEY STRIKE QUICKLY-- SAVAGELY--

THUS, WHEN THE ROBOT WAS AUTOMATICALLY DRAWN BACK TO ITS WORLD IN THE FUTURE, IT COULD NOT LEAVE ITS PEOPLE BEHIND. NOW THEY ARE ALL FREE OF THE PAST...AT LAST! *Fini*

SURE THINGS
WRITER: ISABELLA
ARTISTS: CALNAN & CELARDO


THE LAST MAN ON EARTH SAT ALONE IN HIS HOME AND WANTED TO DIE. THEY WERE ALL GONE NOW, SAVE HIM.
SOON, HE WOULD BE GONE AS WELL.

DEATH WAS A CERTAINTY. THE ONLY SURE THING LEFT IN THIS RUINED WORLD OF DAYS TO COME. BUT AT LEAST HE HAD OUTLASTED THE BUREAUCRACIES THAT HAD CREATED THIS DESOLATION. THEN...
RINGGRINGGRING

RINGGRINGGRINGGRING!!
ANSWERRECALL
HELLO, MR. WOODBURN. THIS IS THE ETERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. COMPUTER X-17857-B SPEAKING. THERE SEEMS TO BE A SLIGHT DISCREPANCY IN YOUR TAX RETURN FOR THE YEAR...
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MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Caricatures shown not intended to depict *Artemia*

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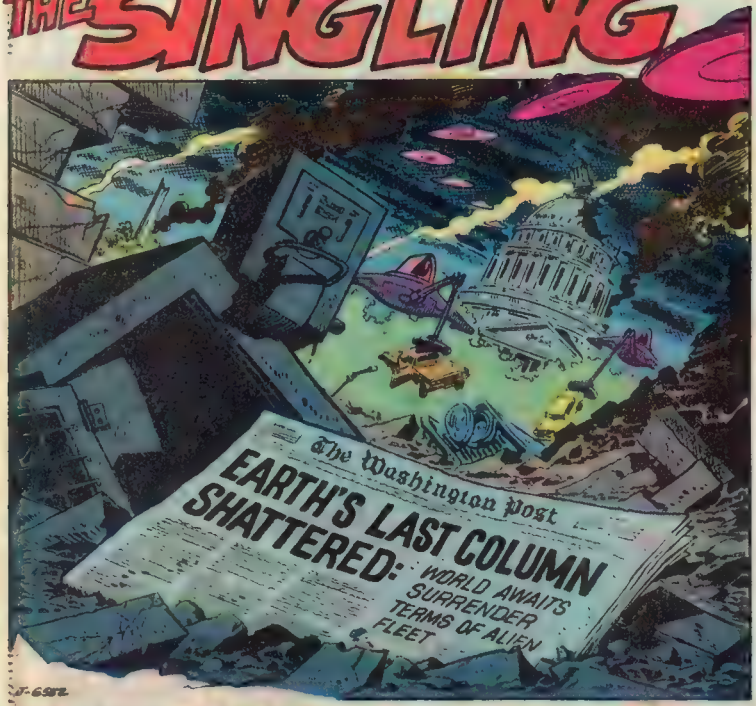
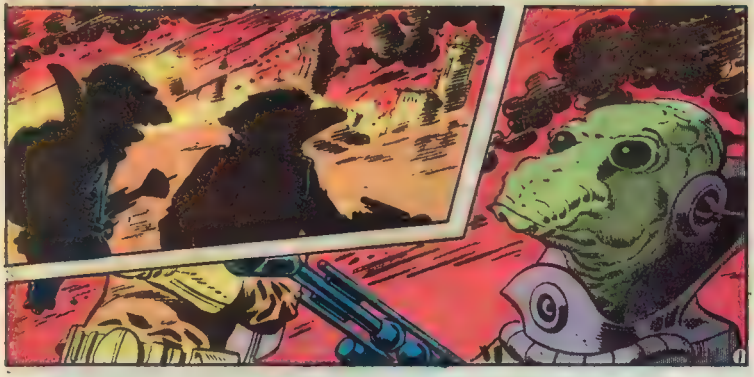
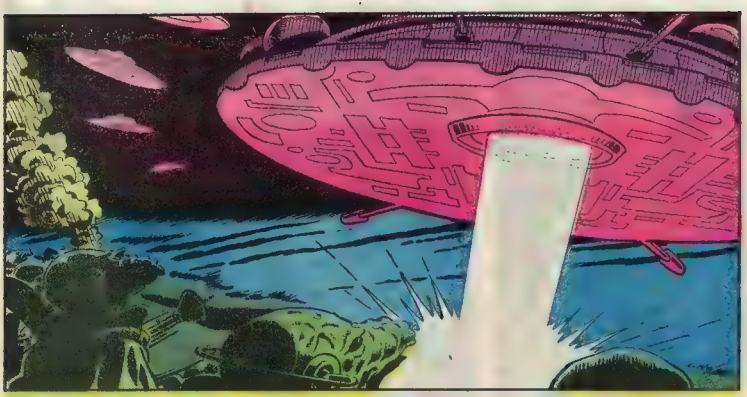
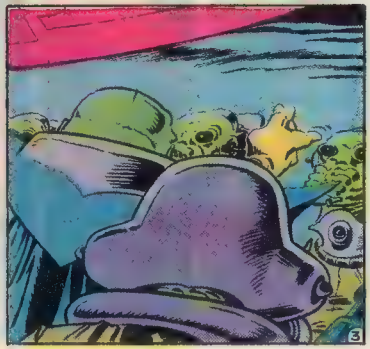
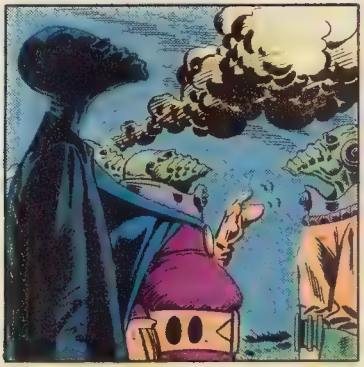
THE SINGLING

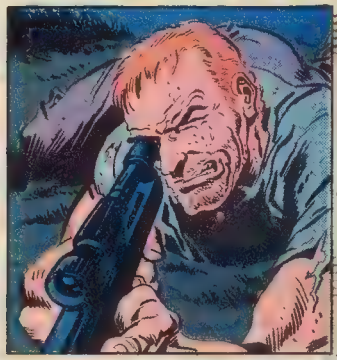


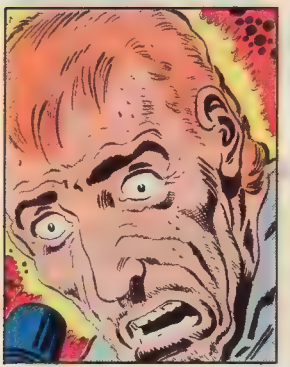












CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

Remember How Many Times You Felt *LEFT OUT*

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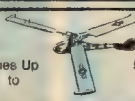

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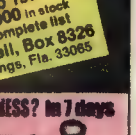

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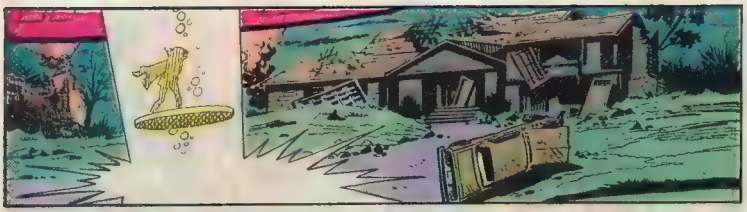
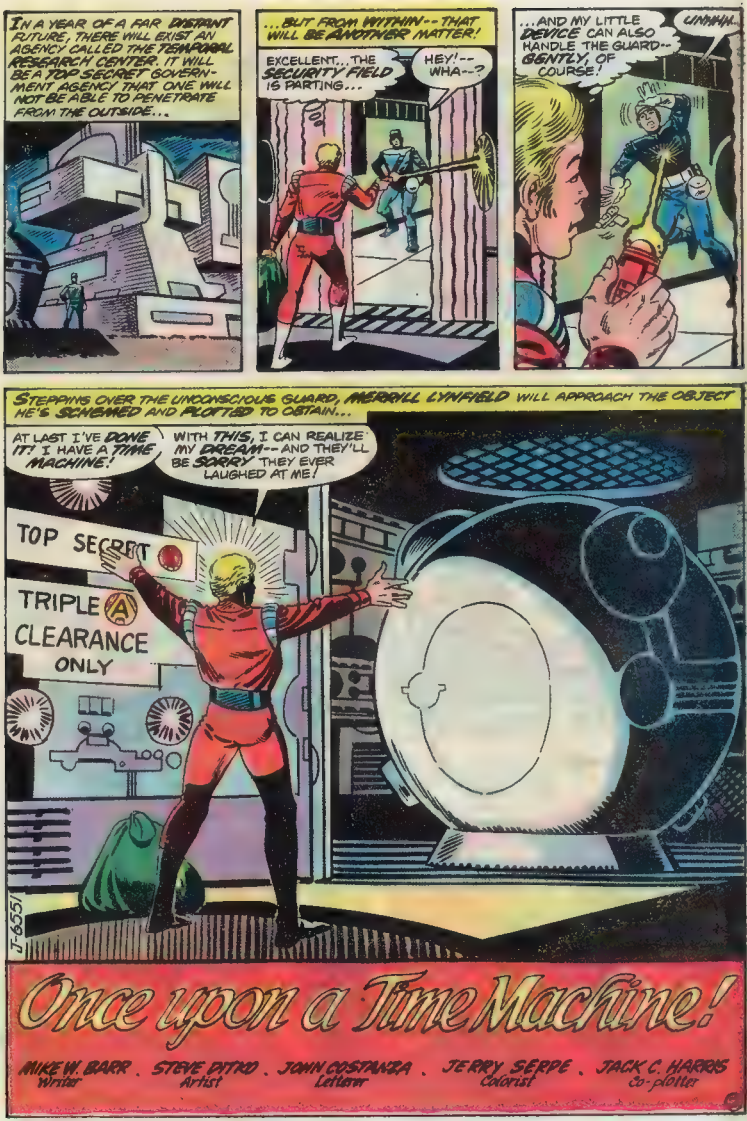
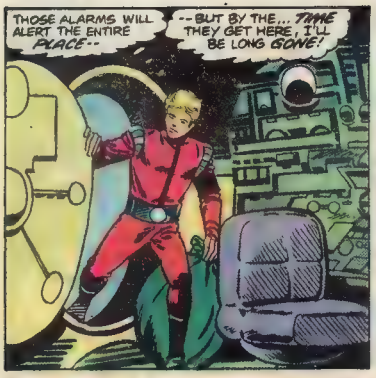
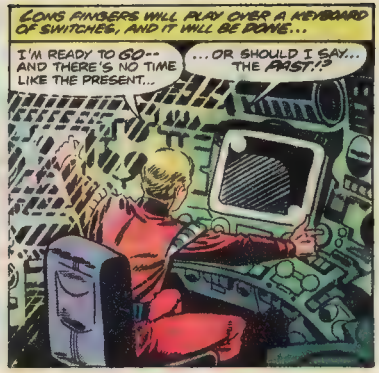


SCRIPT: GERALD J. BROWN
ART: JIM APARO
COLORING: TATJANA WOOD


IN A YEAR OF A FAR DISTANT FUTURE, THERE WILL EXIST AN AGENCY CALLED THE TEMPORAL RESEARCH CENTER. IT WILL BE A TOP SECRET GOVERNMENT AGENCY THAT ONCE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PENETRATE FROM THE OUTSIDE...
...BUT FROM WITHIN--THAT WILL BE ANOTHER MATTER!
EXCELLENT...THE SECURITY FIELD IS PARTING...
HEY!--WHA--?
...AND MY LITTLE DEVICE CAN ALSO HANDLE THE GUARD--GENTLY, OF COURSE!
UNHHH
STEPPING OVER THE UNCONSCIOUS GUARD, MERRILL LYNFIELD WILL APPROACH THE OBJECT HE'S SCHEMED AND PLOTTED TO OBTAIN...
AT LAST I'VE DONE IT! I HAVE A TIME MACHINE!
WITH THIS, I CAN REALIZE MY DREAM--AND THEY'LL BE SORRY THEY EVER LAUGHED AT ME!
TOP SECRET
TRIPLE A CLEARANCE ONLY
J-655!
Once upon a Time Machine!
MIKE W. BARR . STEVE PITRO . JOHN COSTANZA . JERRY SERPE . JACK C. HARRIS
Writer Artist Letterer Colorist Co-plotter

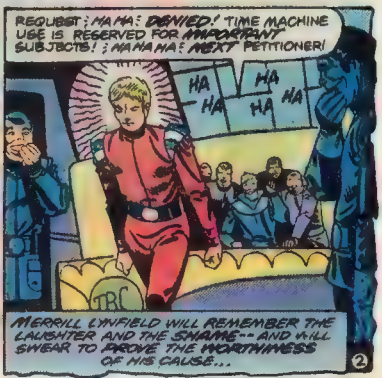



LONG FINGERS WILL PLAY OVER A KEYBOARD OF SWITCHES, AND IT WILL BE DONE...
I'M READY TO GO-- AND THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT...
...OR SHOULD I SAY... THE PAST!?

THERE WILL BE A JOLT... AND FOR MERRILL LYNFIELD, THE FABRIC OF TIME WILL BEGIN TO UNRAVEL!
IT'S WORKING! THEY'LL NEVER RIDICULE ME AGAIN!
AND AS HE IS WHISKED THROUGH THE FOURTH DIMENSION, MERRILL WILL REMEMBER...

...WILL REMEMBER PETITIONING HIS SUPERIORS AT THE TEMPORAL RESEARCH CENTER...
LIBRARIAN LYNFIELD! YOU WISH TO USE OUR TIME MACHINE FOR RESEARCH?
Y-YES, SIR... TO EXAMINE THE ORIGINS OF--OF FAIRY TALES, SIR...
TRC

FAIRY TALES? LYNFIELD... YOU DID SAY-- F-FAIRY TALES?
WHY, YES SIR! IT'S MY HOBBY... MY SPECIALITY! THEY MAY HAVE BASIS IN FACT, AND--
HAHAHAHAHA


REQUEST: HA HA! DENIED! TIME MACHINE USE IS RESERVED FOR IMPORTANT SUBJECTS! ; HA HA HA! NEXT PETITIONER!
HA HA HA HA HA
TRC
MERRILL LYNFIELD WILL REMEMBER THE LAUGHTER AND THE SHAME-- AND WILL SWEAR TO PROVE THE WORTHINESS OF HIS CAUSE...
2

CONTINUED ON 2.3rd PAGE FOLLOWING

IT'S ALMOST READY!

SUPERMAN AND the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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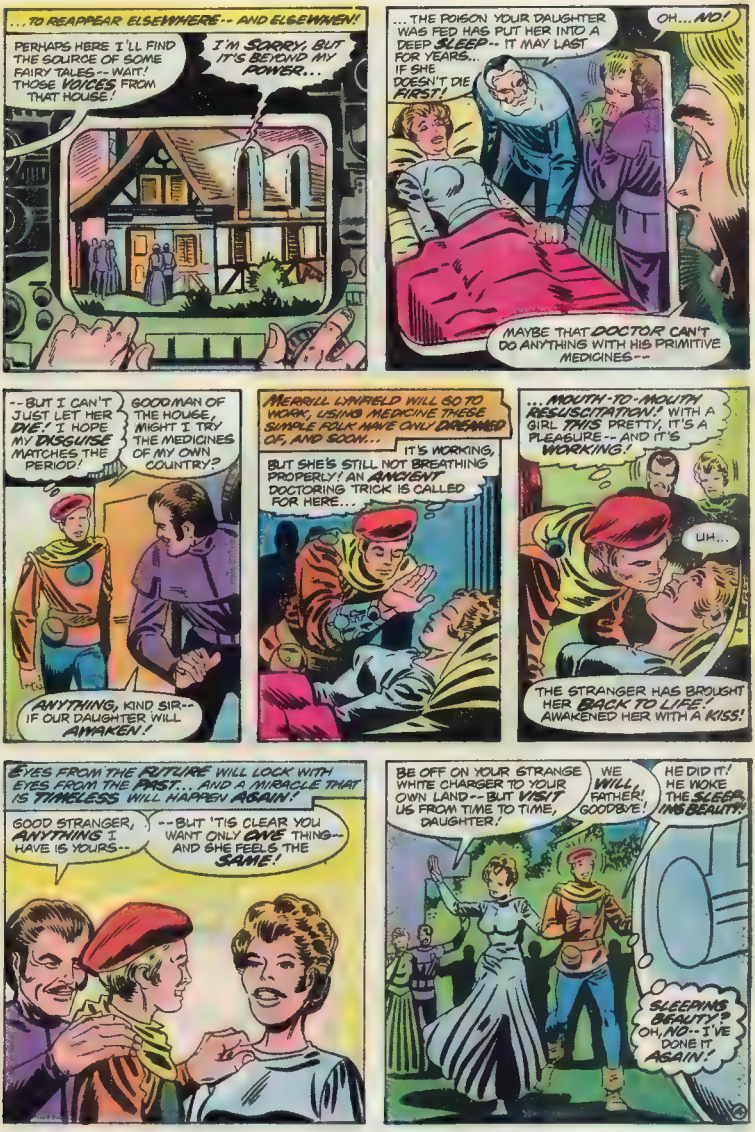
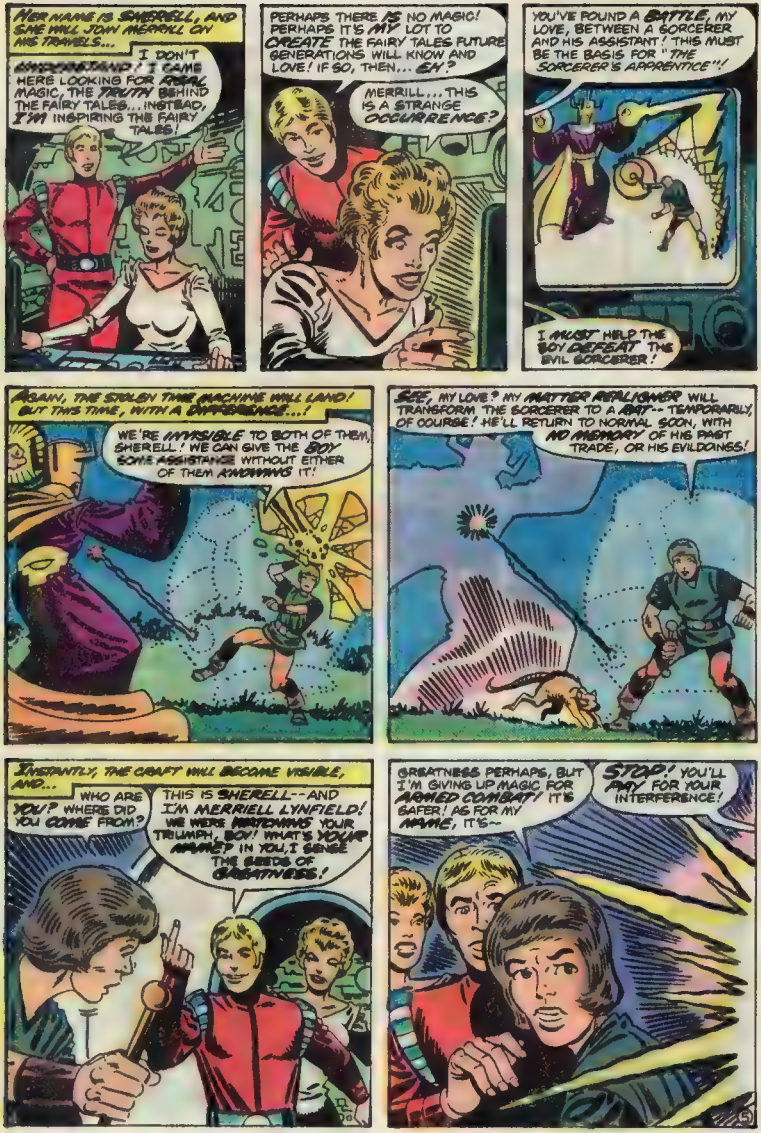
...EVEN IF HE HAS TO STEAL THE TIME MACHINE TO DO IT!
BUT--WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?
I'VE DONE IT--I'M IN THE PAST! LOOK AT THOSE PRIMITIVE DWELLINGS!
'TIS A WASTEFUL, STUPID THING YOU'VE DONE, BOY--
--TRADING OUR ONLY COW FOR THESE BLASTED BEANS!
B-BUT, FATHER... THE MAN SAID THE BEANS ARE MAGIC!
AND YOU BELIEVED HIM! STUPID FOOL!
STUPID JACK! STUPID JACK! HA HA HA HA!
HIGH ABOVE, MERRILL WILL HEAR THE DERISIVE LAUGHTER! HE WILL REMEMBER BEING THE OBJECT OF LIKE DERISION...
DON'T LAUGH AT HIM! DON'T LAUGH!
...AND HE WILL NOT LIKE IT!
MERRILL WILL DO ANYTHING TO SPARE ANOTHER THAT PAIN...
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN STUPID, JACK! AND--HUH?
THE--THE BEANS! THEY'RE GROWING!
...EVEN CREATE HISTORY!
FAREWELL, FATHER! I HAVE TO SEE WHAT'S AT THE OTHER END OF THIS BEANSTALK!
GOODBYE, SON! WE WERE WRONG TO MOCK YOU! I'M SORRY!
BYE BYE, JACK!
OH, MY! I CAME BACK HERE TO RESEARCH FAIRY TALES...
...AND MY GROWTH STIMULATOR WOUND UP--MAKING ONE COME TRUE!
I-I WONDER WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?!
THE TIME MACHINE WILL SHIMMER, LIKE AN IMAGE ON A RIPPLING POND...
23

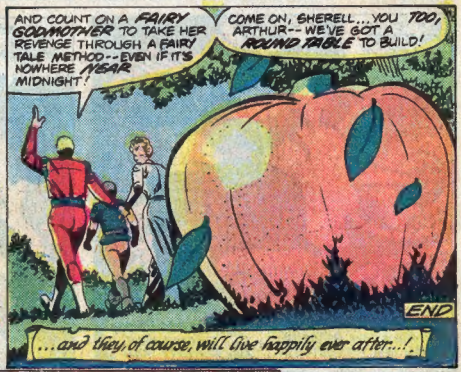

...TO REAPPEAR ELSEWHERE -- AND ELSEWHEN!
PERHAPS HERE I'LL FIND THE SOURCE OF SOME FAIRY TALES -- WAIT! THOSE VOICES FROM THAT HOUSE!
I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S BEYOND MY POWER...
...THE POISON YOUR DAUGHTER WAS FED HAS PUT HER INTO A DEEP SLEEP -- IT MAY LAST FOR YEARS.. IF SHE DOESN'T DIE FIRST!
OH... NO!
MAYBE THAT DOCTOR CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITH HIS PRIMITIVE MEDICINES --
-- BUT I CAN'T JUST LET HER DIE! I HOPE MY DISGUISE MATCHES THE PERIOD!
GOOD MAN OF THE HOUSE, MIGHT I TRY THE MEDICINES OF MY OWN COUNTRY?
ANYTHING, KIND SIR -- IF OUR DAUGHTER WILL AWAKEN!
MERRILL LYNFIELD WILL GO TO WORK, USING MEDICINE THESE SIMPLE FOLK HAVE ONLY DREAMED OF, AND SOON...
IT'S WORKING, BUT SHE'S STILL NOT BREATHING PROPERLY! AN ANCIENT DOCTORING TRICK IS CALLED FOR HERE...
...MOUTH-TO-MOUTH RESUSCITATION! WITH A GIRL THIS PRETTY, IT'S A PLEASURE -- AND IT'S WORKING!
UH...
THE STRANGER HAS BROUGHT HER BACK TO LIFE! AWAKENED HER WITH A KISS!
EYES FROM THE FUTURE WILL LOCK WITH EYES FROM THE PAST... AND A MIRACLE THAT IS TIMELESS WILL HAPPEN AGAIN!
GOOD STRANGER, ANYTHING I HAVE IS YOURS --
-- BUT 'TIS CLEAR YOU WANT ONLY ONE THING -- AND SHE FEELS THE SAME!
BE OFF ON YOUR STRANGE WHITE CHARGER TO YOUR OWN LAND -- BUT VISIT US FROM TIME TO TIME, DAUGHTER!
WE WILL, FATHER! GOODBYE!
HE DID IT! HE WOKE THE SLEEPING BEAUTY!
SLEEPING BEAUTY? OH, NO -- I'VE DONE IT AGAIN!


HER NAME IS SHERRELL, AND SHE WILL JOIN MERRILL ON HIS TRAVELS...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! I CAME HERE LOOKING FOR REAL MAGIC, THE TRUTH BEHIND THE FAIRY TALES... INSTEAD, I'M INSPIRING THE FAIRY TALES!
PERHAPS THERE IS NO MAGIC! PERHAPS IT'S MY LOT TO CREATE THE FAIRY TALES FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL KNOW AND LOVE! IF SO, THEN... EH?
MERRILL... THIS IS A STRANGE OCCURRENCE?
YOU'VE FOUND A BATTLE, MY LOVE, BETWEEN A SORCERER AND HIS ASSISTANT! THIS MUST BE THE BASIS FOR "THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE"!
I MUST HELP THE BOY DEFEAT THE EVIL SORCERER!
AGAIN, THE STOLEN TIME MACHINE WILL LAND! BUT THIS TIME, WITH A DIFFERENCE...!
WE'RE INVISIBLE TO BOTH OF THEM, SHERELL! WE CAN GIVE THE BOY SOME ASSISTANCE WITHOUT EITHER OF THEM KNOWING IT!
SEE, MY LOVE? MY MATTER REALIGNER WILL TRANSFORM THE SORCERER TO A BAT -- TEMPORARILY, OF COURSE! HE'LL RETURN TO NORMAL SOON, WITH NO MEMORY OF HIS PAST TRADE, OR HIS EVILDOINGS!
INSTANTLY, THE CRAFT WILL BECOME VISIBLE, AND...
WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
THIS IS SHERELL -- AND I'M MERRIELL LYNFIELD! WE WERE WATCHING YOUR TRIUMPH, BOY! WHAT'S YOUR NAME? IN YOU, I SENSE THE SEEDS OF GREATNESS!
GREATNESS PERHAPS, BUT I'M GIVING UP MAGIC FOR ARMED COMBAT! IT'S SAFER! AS FOR MY NAME, IT'S--
STOP! YOU'LL PAY FOR YOUR INTERFERENCE!

YOU ARE INTERFERING IN THIS ERA! RETURN TO THE FUTURE, WHERE YOU BELONG -- OR ELSE!
YOUR PRESENCE PROVES THERE IS MAGIC IN THIS WORLD, MADAME!
IN MY OWN ERA I WAS MOCKED FOR BELIEVING IN SUCH AS YOU. HERE I AM LOVED! I'M STAYING!
SUDDENLY...
SHE TRANSPORTED ME AND THE MACHINE UP HERE IN THE WINK OF AN EYE! SHE MUST WANT TO FIGHT!
I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT HER -- BUT I WON'T LEAVE SHERELL!
AND WHEN THE AIR CLEARS...
HE'S DESTROYED! NOW I ALONE MAKE LEGENDS!
SORRY, MADAME!
BUT YOU'RE TRAPPED -- AND YOU'VE LOST!
YOU -- BUT HOW?
THIS IS A TIME MACHINE, MADAME! I WENT FORWARD IN TIME A FEW SECONDS, WHEN YOU THOUGHT I'D BEEN KILLED!
SURRENDER! I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!
HURT ME? YOU'VE DESTROYED ME!
HOW CAN THIS BE? I DID NOTHING TO YOU!

I AM NOT FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT LEGEND! TO CONTAIN MADAME MIM IS TO ANNIHILATE HER!
YOU PROVE THAT SCIENCE WILL ONE DAY TRIUMPH OVER MAGIC! BUT I SHALL HAVE MY REVENGE!
SLOWLY, THE TIME MACHINE WILL BEGIN TO FALL!

YOU--YOU CAN FLY! YOU'RE AN EVEN GREATER WIZARD THAN MY OTHER MASTER! I SHALL SERVE YOU FOREVER, MERLIN!
HUH? BUT I'M NOT--SAY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME ANYWAY, SON?


AND COUNT ON A FAIRY GODMOTHER TO TAKE HER REVENGE THROUGH A FAIRY TALE METHOD--EVEN IF IT'S NOWHERE NEAR MIDNIGHT!
COME ON, SHERELL...YOU TOO, ARTHUR--WE'VE GOT A ROUND TABLE TO BUILD!
END
...and they, of course, will live happily ever after...!

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE LAST WEEK IN JULY

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